

Phone Contact Summary

Date: December 10, 2009

Organization: Synthetic Turf Council

Organizer: OSP set up meeting based on recent contacts by the STC

Attending: EPA: Kent Thomas, Jackie McQueen

STC: Rick Doyle, Stanley Greene, Walter Sanders

Call notes:

Ground rules discussed regarding no discussion, release, or citation of report prior to Agency announcement; technical briefing only, no questions regarding policy at this call.

STC members had several questions.

Asked about level of concern for measurement results; answered that for these particular locations average levels were not of concern but strong caveat that as a methods evaluation study, limitation on number of sites and types of installations, limitations on what was measured, that no broader conclusions could be reached.

Asked about air PM and lead levels at fields and playgrounds; confirmed that air PM and metals at fields were generally similar to background and lower than NAAQS for PM10 and lead, but playground with activity had higher PM and some metals above playground as compared to background but still well below NAAQS values.

Asked about zinc in tire crumb material; confirmed zinc values measured in tire crumb materials; not surprising given levels added to some tires; wipes and air samples suggested probable low level of concern for inhalation or contact but that there are no standards for these for tire crumb in recreation installations.

Asked about citations to other recent work by other organizations and whether those were in the report: answered that this report just reports on the scoping study and did not include such comparisons but the Agency is aware of other recent measurements by States and local organizations.

STC asked about content of the press release; JM answered that we could not answer that question, it should be addressed to EPA communications office.

KWT provided a brief overview of study purpose, how it was conducted, brief results regarding what was measured, how it was measured, results for methods/approach assessment, measurement results, QA/QC and limitations. Noted that there was considerable variability of some metals in materials collected and analyzed; must be considered in any future work.

STC asked about wipe methods and whether it might be considered a standard method for turf fields. Answered that based on QA/QC it performed well in this study but has not been validated for field surfaces. No other methods have been validated.

STC asked about lead bioaccessibility. Answered regarding use of EPA method for soil; not validated for tire or turf materials; was not appropriate for application to wipe samples.

STC asked how the Agency will use this information and whether the Agency would plan on doing more research. Answered that we could not answer that question at this time, but that the Agency would likely be considering results from this and other recent measurement studies by other organizations.